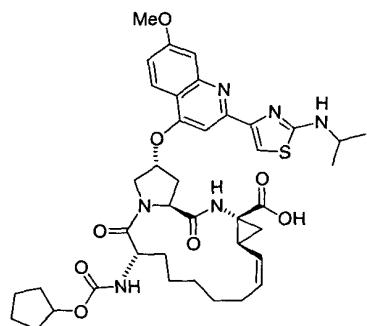


## ABSTRACT

Disclosed are oral pharmaceutical compositions, kits and methods of treating and preventing Hepatitis C Viral (HCV) infections wherein the following Compound (1), a potent inhibitor of HCV serine protease, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered in a selected dosage range:



(1)

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Also disclosed are the use of a compound of formula (1), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as a control substance for validating an HCV replication assay and also as a control substance for determining the relative effectiveness of one or more substances, alone or in combination, to inhibit the replication of HCV.

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